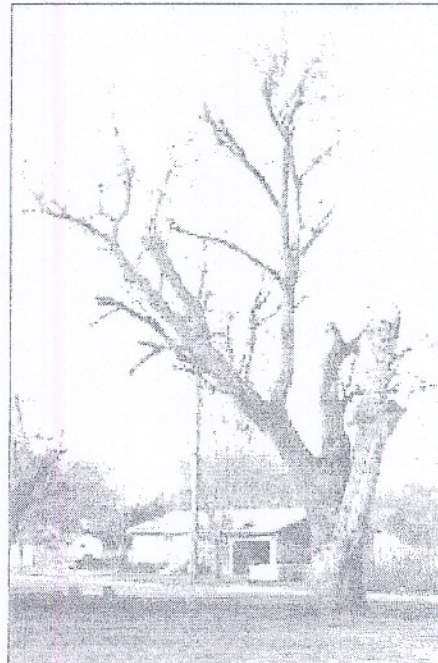# Chapter Five

Removal of Trees Not in the City's Rights-of-Way

Standard Practices

City of Carlsbad
Community Forest Management Plan

Chapter 5 - Removal of Trees not in the City's Rights-of-way

"Trees often give signals that they are declining, unhealthy, or unsafe."

Trees outside the STAD are urban trees that must be managed by their owners in a manner consistent to those within the City's right-of-way. As mentioned in Chapter 1, all trees within the City contribute to the community forest. Although this CFMP directly applies to trees within the STAD, all trees within the City should be managed in a similar way. Privately cared for trees account for most of the community forest and can add greatly to the forest resource. Retention of unhealthy trees in urban forests can lead to larger problems. Trees that are outside the STAD, in private ownership, may contribute negatively to the community forest by fostering disease or insect pests, reducing overall canopy cover, or introducing too little or too much diversity.

Privately owned trees must be proactively managed, by their owners and potential tree hazard evaluated by experienced tree care professionals. Trees that are determined to present unacceptable hazard should be removed and replaced in a similar manner and to similar standards as presently employed by the City. Tree replacement should ultimately be from the approved species list presented in the next Chapter, although individual tree planting spaces will require assessment as to the appropriate size and type of trees they will support as well as consideration for tree themes in a particular area. As such, trees that decline, are lost, or that present a hazard, or may become a reservoir of pests, should be removed in a timely manner and replaced with input from the City or by tree-wise citizens.

As should be evident from the preceding paragraphs, citizen education regarding trees, their care and maintenance, and ultimate removal and replacement is very important. Such education must provide the basic information required to recognize trees that should be removed, who can remove them, how much it may cost, and what trees represent suitable replacements.

Chapter 2 addresses community education in more detail.